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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5

In re Application of

Dean et al.

Application No. 09/977,868

Confirmation No. 3745

Filed: October 15, 2001

For: "NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION"

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 1642

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.
Suite 1200, The Candler Building
127 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1811

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows.

04/15/2002 MABDI1 00000051 09977868
01 FC:202 2394.00 OP
02 FC:203 657.00 OP

Amendment

In the Claims

Please add the following new claims.

224. (New) A method of amplifying a whole genome, the method comprising,

lysing cells to form a cell lysate, wherein the cell lysate comprises a whole genome,

neutralizing the cell lysate to form a neutralized cell lysate, and

incubating the neutralized cell lysate under conditions that promote replication of the genome,